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City and County of the City of Exeter.



ANNUAL REPORT

For 1931.

VITAL STATISTICS,
SANITARY WORK, ETC.,

BY

P. H. STIRK,

M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P., D.P.H., ENG.,

Medical Officer of Health.

EXETER:

BEARNE & EVANS, PRINTERS, SIDWELL STREET,

1932.

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*I have the honour to present to the
Right Worshipful the Mayor,
Aldermen, and Councillors of the
City of Exeter my
Annual Report for the Year 1931,*

P. H. STIRK,

CITY AND COUNTY OF THE CITY OF EXETER.

Public Health Committee.

MAYOR—

ALDERMAN CHARLES WARREN.

CHAIRMAN—

Councillor J. S. S. STEELE-PERKINS.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—

Alderman R. M. CHALLICE.

Alderman J. R. NETHERCOTT

Councillor W. T. BAKER

Councillor W. W. BEER

Councillor S. CHARD

Councillor S. CHILCOTT

Councillor G. G. DAW

Councillor H. GATER.

Councillor W. HEALE

Councillor G. C. HEYWOOD

Councillor E. SELWAY

Councillor J. PASSMORE

Councillor Mrs. E. W. REED

Town Clerk—C. J. NEWMAN, Esq.

Maternity and Infant Welfare Committee.

CHAIRMAN—

Councillor Mrs. R. G. BROWNE.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—

Councillor R. G. SAUNDERS.

Coun. A. W. C. BROWNING

Councillor G. G. DAW

Councillor H. GATER

Councillor Miss E. SPLATT

Councillor A. HICKMOTT

Coun. J. S. S. STEELE-PERKINS

Councillor F. H. TARR

Councillor J. A. WHITTON

*Non-Members of the
Council :*

Lady DAVY

Mrs. DEPREE

Mrs. MILLER

Mrs. PICKARD

Mrs. SMITH

STAFF.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) **Medical.**

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Chief Tuberculosis Officer, Medical Officer to the Mental Deficiency Committee, and Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital and of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium and Honeyland's Children's Hospital.

P. H. STIRK, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. Eng.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.

G. B. PAGE, M.B., Ch.B., M.D., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer.

MISS J. SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer, City Hospital.

JOSEPH A. W. PEREIRA GRAY, M.D., Brux. (Hnrs.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Venereal Disease Medical Officer.

†P. D. WARBURTON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Dental Surgeon.

†G. V. SMALLWOOD, L.D.S. Eng.

District Medical Officers under the Public Assistance Committee.

†W. BROMILOW, M.B., C.M.

†F. H. HUDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

†J. H. WHAITE, B.A., M.D., M.B., B.Ch.

†D. J. A. MACLEAN, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Vaccinator.

†DR. S. J. P. GRAY, F.R.C.S., M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P.

(b) Others.

*Chief Sanitary Inspector and Officer under the Food and
Drugs Adulteration Act, etc.*

ARTHUR E. BONHAM,
Médaille d'Honneur en Vermeil, F.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.,
Cert. London Sanitary Inspectors' Exam. Board,
Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute,
Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Foods, etc.

Inspectors.

R. B. PEARSE,	}	Cert. R. San. Inst.
A. E. TROUNSON,		
C. H. WATTS,		Cert. R. San. Inst. Meat
T. COATES,		and Foods.

Veterinary Surgeon.

†W. ROACH, F.R.C.V.S.

Public Analyst.

†T. TICKLE, B.Sc.

Vaccination Officer.

E. S. HOWELLS.

Health Visitors.

MISS C. A. KNUCKEY,
C.M.B. and Cert. R. San. Inst. for Health Visitors.

MISS B. M. KNUCKEY,
C.M.B. and Cert. R. San. Inst. for Health Visitors.

MISS R. M. BRADY.

General Training, C.M.B., Cert. R. San. Inst. for Health Visitors,
issued by Ministry of Health.

Health Visitors—continued.

MISS M. M. FOY,
General Training, C.M.B., Cert. R. San. Inst. for Health Visitors,
issued by Ministry of Health.

MISS D. HICKSON,
General Training, C.M.B.

Matron of Isolation Hospital.

MISS R. E. A. HUTTY, A.R.R.C.

Matron of Tuberculosis Sanatorium.

Miss L. KEEN.

Matron of Tuberculosis Children's Sanatorium.

MRS R. SUTTERS.

Clerks.

E. S. HOWELLS (Chief Clerk).
H. TUCKER (Tuberculosis Clerk).
MISS G. ROOKE (Shorthand Typist).
W. G. LOTT.
C. STUART.
H. KING.

†Denotes part-time Officers.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE
Introduction ...	3	Sale of Food and Drugs	
Committee ...	4	Act ...	50—51
Staff ...	5—7	Prevalence of, and control over	
Contents ...	8	Infectious Diseases—	
General Statistics ...	9	Cleansing and Disinfecting	51
Vital Statistics:—		Small Pox ...	51—52
Population ...	10	Vaccination ...	52
Birth Rate ...	10	Scarlet Fever ...	52
Death Rate ...	10	Diphtheria ...	53
Corrected Death Rate	11	Enteric Fever ...	53
Infantile Mortality ...	14	Puerperal Fever ...	53
Maternal Mortality ...	15	Puerperal Pyrexia ...	53
Hospitals ...	16—18	Pneumonia ...	54
Institutional provisions		Erysipelas ...	54
for Unmarried Mothers	19	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	54
Ambulance Facilities ...	19	Dysentery ...	54
Clinics and Treatment		Malaria ...	54
Centres ...	20	Encephalitis Lethargica	54
Poor Law Medical		Acute Polio-Encephalitis	54
Out Relief ...	21	Acute Poliomyelitis	54
Professional Nursing		Chicken Pox ...	54
in the Home ...	22	Non-Notifiable Infec-	
Midwives ...	22	tious Diseases ...	55
Laboratory Work ...	23	Cancer ...	55
Examinations at V. D.		Measles ...	55
Department ...	23	Diarrhœa ...	55
Bacteriological Exam ...	23—24	Notifiable Diseases during	
Local Acts, Orders etc.	25	the year ...	56
Bye-Laws and Regulations	25	Tuberculosis ...	57—66
Local Government Act ...	25	Venereal Diseases ...	67—69
Sanitary Circumstances—		Infant Life Protection	69
Water ...	26	Maternity and Child Welfare—	
Drainage and Sewerage	26	Ante-Natal Work ...	69
Sanitary Inspection	27—32	Births ...	70
Smoke Abatement ...	33	Puerperal Sepsis ...	70
Houses Let in Lodgings	33	Measles, Whooping	
Offensive Trades ...	33—34	Cough, etc. ...	71
Schools ...	34	Stillbirths ...	71
Housing ...	35—37	Home Visits ...	71
Inspection and Supervision of		Infant Welfare Centres	71
Food—		Provision of Milk, etc.	72
Milk ...	37—40	Nursing and Maternity	
Ice Cream ...	40	Homes ...	73
Meat ...	40—48	Dental Treatment ...	74
Legal Proceedings ...	49	Ophthalmia Neonatorium	74
Bakehouses ...	49	Orthopædic Treatment	75
		Exeter Isolation Hospital	76—80
		Smallpox Hospital ...	80
		Mental Defectives ...	80
		Superannuation ...	81

ANNUAL REPORT, 1931.

General Statistics.

1.	Area (acres)	...	...	...	4,702
2.	Population (Civilians) (as given by the Registrar General)	...	...	...	63,400
	Total (including Military, etc.)	...	...	...	64,780
3.	Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)			...	13,255
4.	Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1931) according to Rate Books		...	...	15,911
5.	Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921 Census)	...	...	...	14,843
6.	Rateable Value	...	...	...	£554,506
7.	Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£2,150

Vital Statistics.

	Total	M.	F.	Birth Rate
Live Births—Legitimate	887	474	413	14·2
Illegitimate	47	27	20	
Still Births—45	Rate per 1,000 total births—45·9.			
Deaths—862.	Death rate—10·8.			
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth—				
Sepsis, nil From other causes, nil.				
Maternal death rate, nil.				
Death-rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births—				
Legitimate, 58·6 ; illegitimate, 21·2 ; total, 56·7.				
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				2
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)				5
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)				1

BIRTH RATE.

The population for the Birth Rate is 65,400.

The total number of births registered in Exeter in the year 1931 was 1070 divided as follows:—568 males and 502 females.

Of this number, 49 male and 52 female births were certified as illegitimate, being 9.4 per cent. of the total births. To the 1,070 births must be added 13 male and 11 female (2 of whom were illegitimate) and deducted 80 male and 80 female (56 of whom were illegitimate) transferable births, giving a net number of 934 (501 males and 433 females).

The Birth Rate is the number of births per 1,000 of the population. The Birth Rate for 1931 was, therefore, 14.2, being 1.0 below that of last year, 1.6 below that of England and Wales, and 1.8 below that of the 107 Great Towns in which Exeter is classed.

The following table gives the Birth Rate and percentage of illegitimate births to total births for the past 10 years:—

Year.	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
England and Wales ...	20.6	19.7	18.8	18.3	17.8	16.7	16.7	16.3	16.3	15.8
Exeter ...	17.00	16.94	16.79	16.29	16.49	15.5	15.4	15.7	15.2	14.42
Percentage of Illegitimate Births to total births	7.05	9.03	9.1	7.9	8.6	8.4	5.8	6.6	5.6	5.03

DEATH RATE.

The population for Death Rate is 64,780.

The total number of deaths registered as occurring during the year 1931 was 862, divided as follows:—441 males and 421 females.

The Death Rate is the number of deaths per 1,000 of the population. The crude Death Rate for 1931 was 13.3 and the corrected Death Rate 10.8.

CORRECTED DEATH RATE.

In order that the Death Rate of various places may be fairly compared, it is essential to correct the Death Rate for age and sex distribution. To correct a Death Rate for age and sex distribution, the Registrar General has published tables giving factors by which the Death Rate has to be multiplied. The factor for Exeter is .817, and the corrected Death Rate is, therefore, 10.8. Below is a table giving the corrected Death Rate for the past 10 years:—

Year.	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
England and Wales ...	12.9	11.6	12.2	12.2	11.6	12.3	11.7	13.4	11.4	12.3
Exeter ...	13.22	11.02	11.8	11.29	10.71	10.1	10.2	11.5	10.04	10.8

Following is an analysis of the deaths for the various ages together with the cause of death.

[illegible]

[illegible]

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is the number of deaths under one year per 1,000 births. There were 53 deaths under one year, and this gives an Infant Mortality Rate for the year 1931 of 56.7 (legitimate 58.6, illegitimate 21.2), as compared with 49.7 for the previous year. This is noteworthy as the usual incidence is for the illegitimate death rate to be much higher than the legitimate.

The Infantile Mortality Rates for the year 1931 were as follows:—

England and Wales	...	...	...	66
107 Great Towns, including London (census populations exceeding 50,000)	...	...	...	71
159 Smaller Towns (census populations 20,000—50,000)	...	...	...	62
London	...	...	...	65
Exeter	...	...	...	56

The following table shows the Infantile Mortality Rate in Exeter for the past ten years:—

Year.	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
England and Wales ...	77	69	75	75	70	69	65	74	60	66
Exeter ...	66·99	60·72	59·405	74·1	68·5	60·0	69·04	53·2	49·7	56·7

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR.

Cause.	Under 1 month	1 to 3 months.	3 to 6 months.	6 to 9 months.	9 to 12 months.	Total.
Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Chicken Pox	...	...	1	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	3	...	...	3
Bronchitis ...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Pneumonia ...	...	2	3	1	1	7
Diarrhœa, etc.	...	...	...	1	...	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Pre- mature Birth	29	...	...	...	...	29
Infantile Convulsions	...	1	3	...	1	5
Accidental Death	1	...	...	...	...	1
Other Defined Diseases	...	1	1	...	1	3
Total	30	4	12	2	5	53

Excluding those who died during the first month, the deaths of whom were almost entirely due to prematurity, or accidents at birth, of the remaining 23 only 5 occurred amongst breast fed babies, and if evidence were needed this proves emphatically the greater value of breast feeding over artificial feeding, and it is noteworthy that of the total of 5.3 deaths only 3 occurred in infants who regularly attended the Infant Welfare Centres.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no deaths attributable to either Puerperal Sepsis or accidents at births amongst a total number of net births of 934. The Maternal Mortality rate for England and Wales was 4.11 per 1,000 live births, and 3.95 per 1,000 total births, including still-births).

HOSPITALS.

Name.	Situation.	Purpose.	Beds available.	Proportion used by residents outside area.	Management.
Tuberculosis Sanatorium	Pinhoe	Early Tuberculous cases	7 male and 7 female	—	Public Health Cte. Staff— Medical: M.O.H. Nursing: Matron 1 Nurse
Tuberculosis Hospital	Whipton	Advanced Tuberculous cases	7 male and 7 female	—	See Isolation Hospital
Honeylands Tuberculosis Children's Hospital	Whipton	Tuberculosis in Children	10 male and 10 female	—	Public Health Cte. Staff— Medical: M.O.H. Nursing: Matron 2 Nurses
Pensions Ministry and Red Cross Pavilion for Tuberculosis	Whipton	Advanced Tuberculous cases	12 male	—	See Isolation Hospital
Isolation Hospital	Whipton	Infectious Disease cases	24 for Scarlet fever 14 Diphtheria 10 for Enteric Fever, & used at present for 14 Tuberculous cases 20 interchangeable as reqrd. 8 observation cases	By agreement with 25 Local Authorities and other Bodies in the County of Devon, their cases are admitted to the Isolation Hospital, which is capable of considerable expansion in times of necessity.	Public Health Committee. Staff— Medical : M.O.H. Nursing : Matron 1 Sister 2 Staff Nurses 2 Ast. Nurses 8 Probationers
Municipal Maternity Home, City Hospital	Heavitree Road	Maternity cases	6	—	Maternity and Child Welfare Committee Staff : See City Hospital,

HOSPITALS—CONTINUED.

Name.	Situation.	Purpose.	Beds available.	Proportion used by residents outside area.	Management.
Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital	Southernhay	General	Total beds 230. Children's beds 27	City cases 1356 From outside areas 1983	Voluntary
West of England Eye Infirmary	Magdalen Street	Eye cases	55, including cots	70%	Voluntary
City Hospital	Heavitree Road	General—largely senility	100	—	Public Assistance Committee Staff— Medical : 1 (non-resident) Nursing : Matron 15 Nurses 8 Nurse Attns.
The Princess Elizabeth Devonian Orthopædic Hospital	Buckerell Bore	Orthopædic cases	48	City cases 19% From outside areas 81%	Voluntary
Gladstone Rd. Nursing Home.	Gladstone Road	Medical cases only	20	—	Public Assistance Committee Staff— Medical : Own Doctor Nursing (see City pital)

NUMBER OF BEDS AVAILABLE FOR :—

	Male.	Female.	Institution.
General Medical ...		50	Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital
General Surgical ...		117	do. do.
Children ...	10	| 10	Honeylands Children's Sanatorium, Whipton
		36	Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital
		12	City Hospital
Maternity ...		| 4	Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital
		| 6	Municipal Maternity Home
Venereal Diseases ...		4	Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital jointly with Devon C.C.
		| 6	St. Mary's Home
Tuberculosis ...	7	| 7	Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Pinhoe
	19	| 7	Tuberculosis Hospital, Whipton
Chronic Sick ...		24	Ernsborough House—Home for Incurables
Mental ...		384	Exeter Mental Hospital
Mental Deficiency ...		12	City Hospital, also varying number of beds at Western Counties Institution, Starcross
Orthopædic ...		—	As required at Orthopædic Hospital (deformities and surgical tuberculous children)
Ear, Nose and Throat		18	Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia ...		—	As required at Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...		—	Treated, by arrangement, at Eye Hospital

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED
MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS AND
HOMELESS CHILDREN.

Name.	Address.	Accommodation.
St. Olave's Maternity Home	33 Bartholomew Street, East ...	17 Beds for unmarried mothers
St Mary's Home ...	25 Mary Arches Street	6 Beds for female V.D.
St. Elizabeth's Home (Home of Refuge)	Melbourne House Holloway Street	6 Beds for girls in temporary difficulties, or from Police Court
Dr. Barnardo's Home for Girls ...	Feltrim, Topsham Road ...	55 Beds
St. Lawrence's Home for Waifs and Strays... ..	Polsloe Road ...	30 Beds

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) For infectious cases:—

One Motor Ambulance provided by the Council.
One Horse Ambulance for tuberculosis cases.

(b) For non-infectious and accidental cases:—

3 Motor Ambulances provided by St. John Ambulance Association. Council contributes £300 per annum.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name.	Address.	When Held.	Arrangements for Medical Supervision.	Whether provided by the Council or not
Central Infant Welfare Centre	Alice Vlieland Infant Welfare Centre	Weekly on Tuesdays at 2.30	Dr. J. Smith, Asst. M.O.H.	Yes
Western Infant Welfare Centre	Exe Island Mission Hall	Weekly on Fridays at 2.30	Dr. J. Smith Asst. M.O.H.	Yes
Eastern Infant Welfare Centre	Church Street Heavitree	Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 2.30	Dr. P. H. Stirk M.O.H.	Yes
Eastern Infant Welfare Centre	Alice Vlieland Infant Welfare Centre	Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 2.30	Do.	Yes
Impetigo School Clinic	5 West Southernhay	Daily at 4.30	S.M.O.	Yes
Ringworm School Clinic	Do.	Do.	Do.	Yes
Scabies School Clinic	Baths & Wash-houses, King St.	When required	Do.	Yes
Diseases of Ears and Eyes School Clinic	5 West Southernhay	Daily at 9.30 a.m.	Do.	Yes
Treatment Centre for Tonsils & Adenoids Operations	City Hospital	When required	Private Practitioner.	By agreement with the Board of Guardians.
Treatment Centre for Errors of Refraction (including Squint) and other defects or disease of the eyes, not treated at Daily Clinic, 5 W. Southernhay	Eye Infirmary Magdalen St.	Mondays and Tuesdays at 10 a.m.	Eye Infirmary Staff	By agreement with the Eye Infirmary Committee
Tuberculosis Dispensary	1 West Southernhay	Daily from 9 to 5.30 (except Saturdays 9 to 12.30)	Dr. G. B. Page, T.O.	Yes
Venereal Disease Clinic	Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital	MEN. Mondays, 3 to 5 Fridays, 6 to 8 WOMEN. Fridays, 3 to 5	Dr. P. D. Warburton	Yes jointly with the Devon County Council
Cleansing Station	Baths & Wash-houses, King St.	When required	M.O.H.	Yes
Orthopædic Clinic	Exeter Dispensary, Queen Street	Twice a month	Orthopædic Surgeon	In conjunction with Devon County Council
Ante-Natal Clinic	Alice Vlieland Infant Welfare Centre	Fortnightly on Mondays at 2-30 p.m.	Dr. J. Smith, Asst. M.O.H.	Yes

POOR LAW MEDICAL OUT-RELIEF.

I am indebted to the Public Assistance Officer for the following information:—

1. Amount of Out-door Relief:—

Chargeable to City Council	£6550	0	0
Chargeable to other areas	£702	0	0

2. Number of persons in receipt of out relief:—

291	men
398	women
558	children
<hr/>	
1247	

3. Inmates of the City Hospital:—

Number of admissions during the year	737
--------------------------------------	-----

Children's Home:—

Number of admissions during the year	184
Number in Home 1-4-31	58
Number in Home 31-3-32	60

The above figures are in respect of the year ended 31st March, 1932.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL.

The Exeter and District Nursing Association provides Nurses who visit patients daily for nursing, dressings, etc., for which payment is required according to the means of the patient.

Trained Nurses from the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital and private Institutions.

(b) FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital provides Nurses for fever cases, as also do the private Institutions.

The Local Authority has now made arrangements with the Exeter District Nursing Association for nursing assistance when called in by the Council's Department, payment being made according to work done, at the rate of 1/3 per visit for Maternity cases and 1/- per visit for other cases.

MIDWIVES.

40 Midwives notified their intention of practising in the City, but it is rather misleading as many of them were connected with various Institutions who seem to change their staff very frequently, and therefore it must not be taken that there were 40 Midwives actually practising during the whole year; of these, 17 belonged either to the Exeter and District Nursing Association or St. Olave's Home; all were trained Midwives and certificated by the Central Midwives' Board, no Midwife practising by virtue of being in practice before the Act.

The conduct and work of the Midwives has on the whole been good. The rules of the Central Midwives' Board have been observed, and in only two or three instances has the attention of Midwives had to be drawn to minor faults in connection therewith.

No Midwives are employed or subsidised by the Local Authority.

LABORATORY WORK.

In suspected cases of Diphtheria no charge is made. All V.D. work is done without charge. The examination of swabs from Diphtheria contacts is only undertaken free if it is done after consultation with the Medical Officer of Health. Local Authorities are charged the actual cost of Laboratory work done for their patients whilst in the Exeter Isolation Hospital.

Pathological and Bacteriological work (V.D. only) is carried out for the Local Authority at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital by Dr. Robb; and Bacteriology (other than sputa examinations) is done partly by the City Analyst and partly by the Lister Institute. Sputa examinations are made by the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.

EXAMINATIONS AT V.D. DEPARTMENT.

For detection of Spirochetes	.....	.....	.....	4
For detection of Gonococci	.....	.....	.....	124
For Wasserman re-action	.....	.....	.....	274
Other examinations	.....	.....	.....	2

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

For Tuberculosis—

Sputum—Positive	.....	.....	.....	114
Negative	.....	.....	.....	311
Pleural Fluid—Negative	.....	.....	.....	1
Fæces —Negative	.....	.....	.....	4
Urine—Negative	.....	.....	.....	5
Positive	.....	.....	.....	1
			Total	436

For Enteric Fever—

Blood—Positive	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Negative	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Total					<hr/> 17

Faeces—

Negative	Total	<hr/> 1
----------	-------	-------	-------	-------	---------

Urine—

Negative	Total	<hr/> 1
----------	-------	-------	-------	-------	---------

For Cerebro-spinal Fever—

Negative	Nil
----------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

For Diphtheria, for primary investigation—

Positive	.....	.....	.....	.....	241
Negative	.....	.....	.....	.....	1313
Total					<hr/> 1554

For Diphtheria, investigation before discharge from
isolation of cases treated at home—

Positive	.....	.....	.....	.....	29
Negative	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
Total					<hr/> 67

For Diphtheria, investigation before discharge from
Hospital—

Positive	.....	.....	.....	.....	101
Negative	.....	.....	.....	.....	606
Total					<hr/> 707

Diphtheria Anti-toxin and Anti-Meningococcic Serum are issued from the Public Health Department, free in necessitous cases, Doctors being charged in others.

LOCAL ACTS, ORDERS, ETC.

Adopted—

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.
P.H.A. (Amend.) Act, 1890.
Museum and Gymnasium Act, 1891.
Cleansing of Persons Act, 1897.
Public Library Acts.
Baths and Washhouses Acts.
P.H.A. (Amend.) Act, 1907 (all adopted 1909).
P.H.A. 1925, Part II. (except Sections 20 and 34),
and Parts III., IV., and V.
Exeter Corporation Act, 1928.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Houses let in Lodgings, 1924.
Public Abattoir, 1913 and 1925.
Private Slaughterhouses, 1913.
Removal of Snow and Keeping of Animals, 1892.
Common Lodging Houses, 1902.
Prohibiting the Admission into the Cattle Market of
Animals Unfit for Food, 1911.
Building Bye-laws, 1926.
Offensive Trades, 1926.
Nursing Homes, 1929.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT.

No old Poor Law Institutions have been appropriated or Declarations made. The whole question is under consideration, and when the matter is more mature, will be discussed with representatives of the voluntary hospitals.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES of the AREA.**WATER.**

The City's water supply has been well maintained, and there has been no anxiety as to the supply being limited during any part of the year. The whole of the water passing through the mechanical filters was chlorinated. The water passing through the second filters was not chlorinated.

During the months of July and August, 9 cases of Typhoid or Paratyphoid Fever were notified in the City, and an investigation suggested the probable cause as water. It was decided to chlorinate the whole of the water supply, and the mechanical filtering material was cleaned out and replaced by new material. After this, no further difficulty was experienced.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

The re-sewering of the St. Thomas area was carried out during the year under the supervision of the City Engineer, and during its progress, advantage was taken of seeing the condition of house drains that had to be connected therewith. Much work was accomplished in the matter of repair of house drains, disconnection of rainwater pipes, etc., as the main scheme extended.

Contracts were also placed for the construction of the new Sewage Works at Countess Weir, and for the new Outfall Schemes, and at the time of writing, this work is proceeding.

SANITARY INSPECTION of the AREA.

STATEMENT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

NOTICES.

Number served—Informal	.....	.....	276
Statutory	.....	.....	17
Number uncomplied with at end of year	.....	.....	11

HOUSES AND PREMISES.

Number Inspected upon Complaint	.....	.....	644
Number of Defective Yards Paved	.....	.....	20
Number of Defective Eaves and Gutters Rectified	.....	.....	30
Number of Walls, Floors and Ceilings Repaired	.....	.....	46
Number of Roofs Repaired	.....	.....	19
Number of Rooms Cleansed and Limewashed	.....	.....	45

BATHS, LAVATORIES AND SINKS.

Number of Glazed Sanitary Sinks Provided	.....	.....	14
Number of Waste Pipes Trapped	22

WORK IN PROGRESS.

Number of Visits made thereto	3791
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OVERCROWDING.

Number of Cases Abated	13
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DRAINS.

Number of Smoke Tests Made	107
Number of Water Tests Made	117
Number Laid or Re-laid or Repaired	88
Number Cleansed, Trapped and Ventilated	.....	.....	115
Number of Defective Bell and D Traps replaced by Stoneware Gullies	.....	.....	18
Number of Rainwater Pipes Disconnected	.....	.....	12

COURTS AND PASSAGES.

Number of Visits made thereto	.....	.....	426
Number Repaved	.....	.....	3
Number Limewashed	.....	.....	8

WATER CLOSETS.

Number of Additional W.C.'s Provided or	
Reconstructed	13
Number Repaired, Ventilated, etc.	41
Number of Soil Pipes Repaired, Ventilated or	
Reconstructed	8
Number of Flushing Apparatus Improved	23
Number Limewashed	51

DUST RECEPTACLES (PORTABLE).

Number of Visits	137
Number of New Dust Receptacles Provided	100

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number of Visits to Public Abattoir	366
Number of Visits made to Private Slaughterhouses	602
Number of Contraventions Found and Remedied	1

BAKEHOUSES.

Number Inspected	87
Number of Contraventions Found and Remedied	12

OUTWORKERS.

Number of Premises	111
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DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Number of Inspections Made	470
Number of Contraventions of Acts, Orders and	
Byelaws dealt with	27

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of Inspections Made	350
Number of Contraventions Found and Remedied	3

FOOD.

Number of Preparation and Storage Premises	
Visited	350
Number of Defects Discovered and Remedied	12

ANIMALS KEPT SO AS TO BE A NUISANCE.

Number of Cases Abated	19
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ACCUMULATION OF OFFENSIVE REFUSE.

Number of Removals	41
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Number of Dung-Pits Provided or Re-modelled	---
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MEETINGS OF OWNERS.

Number of Interviews and Appointments Kept	274
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MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

Enquiries and Visits Made to Male Defectives	171
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RATS AND PESTS.

Enquiries and Visits	103
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FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces, including Inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories ... (Including Factory Laundries)	127	3	—
Workshops ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	206	5	—
Workplaces ... (Other than Outworkers' premises)	7	—	—
Total ...	340	8	—

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—*				
Want of cleanliness ...	18	18	—	—
Want of ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances ...	1	1	—	—
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient ...	Nil	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	7	7	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	1	1	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ...				
Other offences ... (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories & Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)				
Abstracts not affixed ...				
Total ...	27	27	—	—

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES
SECTION 108.

NATURE OF WORK	Instan- ces.	Notices served.	Prose- cutions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Wearing Apparel—			
Making, &c.		
Cleaning and washing		
Household linen		
Lace, lace curtains and nets		
Curtains and furniture hangings		
Furniture and Upholstery		
Electro-plate		
File making		
Brass and brass articles		
Fur pulling		
Cables and chains		
Anchors and grapnels		
Cart gear		
Locks, latches and keys		
Umbrellas, &c.		
Artificial flowers		
Nets, other than wire nets		
Tents		
Sacks		
Racquet and tennis balls		
Paper, etc., boxes, paper bags		
Brush making		
Pea picking		
Feather sorting		
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c.		
Stuffed toys		
Basket making		
Chocolates and sweetmeats		
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.		
Textile weaving		
Leather bag making		
Total ...	Nil	Nil	Nil

Houses inspected—(a) under Regulations	130
(b) on Complaint	165
Tenements cleansed, whitewashed, etc.	45
Houses closed	1
Floors relaid or repaired	73
Walls, ceilings, etc., repaired	238
Roofs repaired or reconstructed	64
Stairs and doors repaired	29
Windows provided to rooms	16
Windows of rooms made to open	7
Windows of rooms rapaired, etc., and sash cords renewed	89
Yards repaved or repaired	42
Drains reconstructed	72
Drains repaired	24
Defective or insufficient eaves gutters or rainwater pipes	73
Bell or D traps replaced with stoneware gullies	8
Scullery troughs and baths provided	32
Waste pipes trapped	30
Water closets provided	2
Water closets repaired, etc.	39
Water closets reconstructed	21
Defective water closet pans replaced with pans of wash-down pattern and flush improved	38
Flushing of water closets improved	9
Water closets provided with a window	2
Water closets limewashed	11
Coppers, stoves and grates repaired	53
Water tap provided on pipe direct from main	8
Rooms closed for use as bedrooms	1
W.C. soil and vent pipes reconstructed	3
Smoke tests	38
Water tests	104
Food cupboards provided	9
Dampness remedied	3

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The factory chimney commented upon in my last Report has ceased to emit smoke in such quantity as to be a nuisance, an incinerator having been installed by the Owner for the treatment of factory waste, which, at the time the complaints were received, was dealt with upon the boiler fires.

Other smoke nuisances reported during the year were from brickworks, and from a steam laundry. In the former, the nuisance was from brick kilns that are side-fired, and as such kilns are not included in the list of furnaces that may be covered by Byelaws made under the Smoke Prevention Act of 1926, it was not possible to deal with the matter other than by requesting the occupier of the works to use every endeavour to minimise the nuisance by careful stoking. In the other case, the nuisance was abated by the laundry occupier taking into use Anthracite coal as fuel, instead of a lower quality of coal which he had previously been using.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

The usual routine inspection of these premises was carried out by the Assistant Inspectors during the year, and it was not found necessary to take statutory action, all informal Notices being responded to by the owners.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

These premises, with the exception of Fish Friers, and Rag and Bone Dealers, are situated near to each other in Commercial Road.

They comprise:—

Tanner	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Fat Boiler, Soap Maker, Cattle Feeding Stuffs, and Artificial Manure Works	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Bone and Fat Boiler	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Gut Scraper	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Fish Friers	.....	.....	.....	.....	37

One additional Licence was granted to a Fish Frier during the year.

A few complaints were received of bad smells noticeable in the St. Thomas area, and these were traceable to the Artificial Manure Works. Action was taken in each case, but it was not found necessary to go beyond the service of informal Notices. The bulk of the raw material used at these Works is collected from a large surrounding area, and if this can be received at the Works in a reasonably fresh condition, I think it would be certain that no nuisance would arise, for it is only in respect of decomposing material that difficulty is experienced in preventing nuisance from works which are equipped with proper condensers for dealing with the fumes by water, as these works are.

SCHOOLS.

No complaint was received during the year of nuisance or trouble from the sanitary conveniences at the Schools, a fact which reflects credit on the administration of the Masters and Mistresses.

HOUSING.

(a) *Statistics.*1. *Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:—*

(1) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) and the number of inspections made	839
(2) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and the number of inspections made	130
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	27
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	812

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:—*

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	813
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—*

A. Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	3
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	.....	.....	.....	12
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—				
(a) By Owners	.....	.....	.....	11
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	.....	.....	.....	—

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	.....	27
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	.....	2

D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	.....	.....	.....	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	.....	.....	.....	1

E. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs				—
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—				
(a) By Owners	.....	.....	.....	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	.....	.....	.....	—

(3) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intention to close	—
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F. Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwellinghouses having been rendered fit	.....	1
(3) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	.....	—
(4) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	.....	31

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

It is pleasing to report that the percentage of adulterated samples, 8.3 of the Formal Samples of New Milk that were examined, is considerably lower than that of the previous year, when it was 14.5%.

The adulterations reported were in all cases deficiency in fat, the percentages ranging from 18 down to as low as 4 per cent., and are reported upon under the heading "Food Adulteration Act."

At the end of 1931 there were on the Register:—

Cowkeepers	.....	.....	.....	26
Wholesale Purveyors of Milk	.....	.....	.....	171
Retail Purveyors of Milk	.....	.....	.....	141

All of the cowkeepers' premises that are within the City were regularly inspected in addition to visits by the Veterinary Officer, who makes a minimum of four visits a year to examine cattle. Contraventions of the Milk and Dairies Order were promptly dealt with by Informal Notice and complied with.

Under the Tuberculosis (in Cattle) Order, 1925, two cases showing clinical signs of Tuberculosis were dealt with, and these, upon Post Mortem examination, were found to be affected with advanced Tuberculosis.

There were 20 samples of milk sent to the Clinical Research Association for examination, and all were reported upon as free from Tuberculosis. The examinations were conducted by animal experiment.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1923.

The number of samples of Certified Milk obtained under the above Order was 17, particulars of which are here set out:—

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Count in 1 c.c.</i>	<i>Presence of B. Coli.</i>
24-2-31	29,200	Not found.
26-3-31	1,180	"
"	4,000	"
23-4-31	920	"
18-6-31	2,920	"
"	3,200	"
9-7-31	540	"
"	1,100	"
22-7-31	1,790	"
12-8-31	940	"
"	5,100	"
26-8-31	20,000	"
14-9-31	2,700	Present in 1/10 c.c. in one tube.
22-9-31	53,000	Not found.
"	540	"
12-11-31	68,000	"
10-12-31	1,800	"

As the maximum count for Certified Milk is 30,000 it will be seen from the above figures that the supply of Certified Milk has been maintained in a high state of purity, although two of the samples were slightly over the count.

Of Grade "A" (Tuberculin Tested) Milk—

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Total colonies per c.c.</i>	<i>B. Coli.</i>
24-2-31	500	Not found
"	2,600	"
26-3-31	500	"
"	11,000	"
23-4-31	70,400	"
"	11,200	"
18-6-31	400	"
"	3,400	"
12-11-31	1,850	"
"	2,500	Present in 1 c.c.
10-12-31	3,000,000	Present in 1/100th c.c.
"	200,000	Not found

The maximum count for Grade "A" (T.T.) Milk is 200,000 colonies per c.c. and no B. Coli in 1/100th c.c.

It will be seen that one of the above failed to reach the required standard of cleanliness. It was investigated and reported to the Public Health Committee.

Of Grade "A" Milk—

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Total colonies per c.c.</i>	<i>B. Coli.</i>
24-2-31	6,000	Present in 1 c.c.
26-3-31	5,000	Not found
23-4-31	24,000	"
18-6-31	3,000	"
12-11-31	1,700	"
10-12-31	400,000	"

The maximum count for Grade "A" Milk is total colonies per c.c. 200,000, and B. Coli absent in 1/100th.

Of Pasteurized Milk—

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Total colonies per c.c.</i>	<i>B. Coli.</i>
24-2-31	27,200	Not found
26-3-31	4,000	"
23-4-31	Under 100	"
18-6-31	400	"
12-11-31	1,200	"
10-12-31	1,500,000	Present in 1/10th c.c.

The one sample shewing an excess of organisms was enquired into, and a caution was issued.

After pasteurization, the conditions require that a sample shall not contain more than 100,000 bacteria per c.c.

On the whole, however, the Graded Milk in the City is generally satisfactory, and the producers and salesmen concerned are to be complimented upon the way in which they place this excellent and economic food upon the Market.

ICE CREAM.

Under the Exeter Corporation Act, 1928, all persons who manufacture, deal in, or sell Ice Cream, must be registered, as well as their premises.

At the end of 1931, the number of persons on the Register was 100. Registration is not accepted until the premises have been inspected and approved. This power enables the Department to keep a tight check upon vendors and their premises. In no instance was it necessary to take formal action.

There was a reference in my last Report to the fact that there is still no standard laid down as to what constitutes Ice Cream. As there is a very large trade in this commodity, the consumption of which seems to be on the increase, it is considered that a standard which should specify clearly and definitely the materials that might be used in its manufacture should be issued by the Ministry of Health without delay.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR AND MEAT INSPECTION.

Work at the Public Abattoir was well maintained during the year, when the total number of animals dealt with was 26,003, an increase of 3,887 over the previous year.

There is still at times considerable congestion during slaughtering, and it is to be hoped that the question of a considerable extension of the premises, or, better still, the provision of new and up-to-date Abattoirs, will materialise before long.

The eleven private slaughterhouses in the City (8 registered and 3 licensed) were regularly visited on killing days. All were controlled in a satisfactory manner, and no infringement of the Byelaws was reported. The number of visits made to slaughterhouses was 366.

Seizures and Surrenders of diseased meat were:—

At the Abattoirs	.....	.....	1,170
At private slaughterhouses and shops			115
Magisterial Orders obtained		.....	5

The following tables show the number of cattle dealt with, and give particulars of the diseased conditions found:—

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIR AND THE FEES EARNED DURING
THE FINANCIAL YEAR, 1-4-31 to 31-3-32.

ANIMALS.	Number slaughtered.	Fees earned for slaughter.	Lairage No. of days.	Fees earned for lairage.	Storage. No. of days.	Fees earned for storage.	Total fees earned.
Cattle	4175	£ 417 10 0 s. d.	2080	£ 34 13 4 s. d.	421	£ 5 5 5 s. d.	£ 457 8 9 s. d.
Calves	2617	87 4 8	6	1 0	38	6 4	87 12 0
Sheep	9907	165 2 4	34	2 10	—	—	165 5 2
Pigs @ 1/-	9280	464 0 0	11	1 10	—	—	467 1 10
„ @ 2/6	24	3 0 0					
Total	26,003	1,136 17 0	2,131	34 19 0	459	5 11 9	1,177 7 9

Amount received from the sale of Cartridges, £35 3s. 11d.

Amount received from the sale of blood, £7 7s. 0d.

TABLE OF CHARGES.

Slaughtering tolls, including lairage for two days.	Lairage tolls per day, after expiration of second day.	Storage tolls per day, after expiration of second day.
For every Bull, Bullock, Cow or Heifer ...	4d.	3d.
For every Calf ...	2d.	2d.
For every Pig ...	2d.	2d.
For every Sow or Boar over 14 score ...	2d.	2d.
For every Sheep or Lamb ...	1d.	1d.

CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES.
1931.

WHOLE CARCASSES SEIZED OR SURRENDERED ON
ACCOUNT OF GENERALIZED TUBERCULOSIS.

Descrip- tion.	Number of Animals.	WEIGHTS.											
		CARCASSES.				ORGANS & OFFAL.				TOTALS.			
		T	C	Q	Lbs.	T	C	Q	Lbs.	T	C	Q	Lbs.
Cows	16	4	2	2	16	1	6	0	2	5	8	2	18
Heifers	11	2	8	3	15		15	1	4	3	4	0	9
Steers	4		19	0	20		5	2	18	1	4	3	10
Calves	3		6	0	2		1	1	25		7	1	27
Pigs	20	1	6	0	3		3	0	18	1	9	0	21
Totals	54	9	2	3	0	2	11	2	11	11	14	1	11

PARTS OF CARCASSES, OFFAL, ETC., SEIZED OR SUR-
RENDERED ON ACCOUNT OF LOCALIZED TUBERCULOSIS

Descrip- tion.	Number of Animals.	WEIGHTS.											
		MEAT.				ORGANS & OFFAL.				TOTALS.			
		T	C	Q	Lbs.	T	C	Q	Lbs.	T	C	Q	Lbs.
*Bovines	136		7	1	16	2	2	1	24	2	9	3	12
Calves	1								10				10
Pigs	136		6	2	23		16	1	17	1	3	0	12
Totals	273		14	0	11	2	18	3	23	3	13	0	6

*Includes 26 bullocks' heads.

WEIGHT OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS SEIZED OR SURRENDERED.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Whole carcasses including offals on account of Generalised Tuberculosis	11	14	1	11
Parts of carcasses and offals, etc., on account of Localised Tuberculosis ...	3	13	0	6
Whole carcasses including offals on account of diseases or conditions other than Tuberculosis ...	10	7	0	23
Parts of carcasses and offals, etc., on account of Local affections ...	4	16	2	13
Imported Meat ...		14	2	3
Other Foods ...	3	16	0	4
Total weight of Meat and other Foods seized or surrendered ...	35	1	3	4

PARTS OF CARCASSES, OFFAL, ETC., SEIZED OR SURRENDERED ON ACCOUNT OF MINOR DISEASES AND CONDITIONS (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS), SUCH AS RHEUMATISM, DAMAGED, PLEURISY, PARASITES, ETC.

	Weight.											
	Meat.				Offal and Organs.				Total.			
	T.	C.	Q.	L.	T.	C.	Q.	L.	T.	C.	Q.	L.
Beef ...		8	1	18	1	19	2	24	2	8	0	14
Mutton and Lamb		6	3	14		15	2	4	1	2	1	18
Pork ...		2	0	5	1	0	0	24	1	2	1	1
Veal ...			3	23		2	3	13		3	3	8
Total ...		18	1	4	3	18	1	9	4	16	2	13

PARTICULARS OF IMPORTED MEAT SEIZED OR SURRENDERED, INCLUDING ORGANS, OFFAL, ETC.

Description.				Weight.			
				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs..
Beef			14	0	16
Mutton					20
Veal					23
Total					14	2	3

PARTICULARS OF OTHER FOODS SEIZED OR SURRENDERED.

Particulars.				Weight.			
				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
2 Tins of Apricots	...	...					2
Bacon	...	...				1	19
2 Tins Corned Beef	...	...					3
1 Bag of Cockles	...	...				3	16
2 Tins of Eggs	...	...				2	20
Fish	...	...		3	3	1	3
5 Fowls	...	...					27
4 Tins of Ham	...	...				1	10
10 Sacks of Potatoes	...	...			10	0	0
4 Tins of Salmon	...	...					7
2 Tins of Tomatoes	...	...					4
3 Tins of Tongue	...	...					5
Totals	...	...		3	16	0	4

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD SEIZED OR
SURRENDERED, SHOWING WEIGHT MONTHLY.

Month.				Weight.			
				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
January	...	...	...	2	0	2	8
February	...	...	...	3	7	0	25
March	...	...	...	3	19	2	4
April ...	...	...	...	2	4	0	2
May ...	...	...	...	2	11	3	0
June ...	...	...	...	2	8	1	0
July ...	...	...	...	2	5	3	9
August	...	...	...	3	3	3	25
September	...	...	...	2	19	1	18
October	...	..	...	3	13	3	15
November	...	...	...	3	13	0	27
December	...	...	...	2	14	0	11
Total ...				35	1	3	4

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926, AND ORDERS
MADE THEREUNDER.

There were 5 prosecutions taken under the above Act and Orders with the following results:—

For exposing foreign tomatoes for sale while not being properly labelled with the country of origin, one dealer was fined £1 and costs, two dealers were each fined 10/-, and another 5/-, while another, for exposing imported apples without being labelled with the country of origin, was fined 5/-.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

The following prosecutions were undertaken:—

For exposing meat for sale in the Lower Market while unsound, a butcher was fined £1-0-0.

A hawker was prosecuted for exposing unsound Herring Roes for sale and fined £2-0-0.

MILK AND DAIRIES ACT, 1915, AND
MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

A vendor of milk was prosecuted for using a churn that was not capable of being readily cleansed, and the case was dismissed on payment of costs, and an undertaking by the owner not to use the said churn in future.

BAKEHOUSES.

These were regularly inspected, and in all, twelve Notices were served on the occupiers for contraventions of the Regulations as to Bakehouses. All of the Notices were immediately complied with.

FOOD ADULTERATION ACT, 1928.

Article.			Examined.		Adulterated.	
			Formal.	Informal	Formal.	Informal
New Milk	...	...	36	...	3	...
Scald Milk	...	...	3	...	...	...
Butter	...	...	1	31	...	...
Cream	...	...	...	15	...	...
Margarine	...	...	1	12	...	...
Tea	...	...	...	44	...	...
Camphorated Oil	...	...	...	15	...	...
Sausages	...	...	...	12	...	...
Coffee	...	...	...	14	...	...
Ground Ginger	...	...	...	12	...	...
Coffee and Chicory	...	...	...	1	...	...
Demerara Sugar	...	...	...	15	...	...
Total	...	...	41	171	3	...

In connection with the adulterated articles shown above, a caution was issued by the Town Clerk in one case. Proceedings were taken in the other cases, and in one (a deficiency of 12%), the case was dismissed, the bench holding that the milk had not been adulterated, and in another (a deficiency of 18%) a fine of £1-0-0 and costs was imposed. The defendant appealed to the Quarter Sessions on the ground that the milk was as it came from the cow, and his appeal was allowed.

A vendor was prosecuted for exposing margarine for sale while not labelled as such, and also for delivering same in an unlabelled wrapper, and was fined £1-0-0 in each case.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN
FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1925.

All of the articles in the foregoing list were examined for preservatives and in no case was any found.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

With the exception of Chicken Pox and Enteric Fever, the incidence of Infectious Disease has been considerably less than in the previous year.

The arrangements for isolation and disinfection remain the same as in former years. The Isolation Hospital proved sufficient for all calls upon it. The disinfection of houses and articles is carried out by fumigation or spraying, and steam disinfection.

CLEANSING AND DISINFECTING.

The Cleansing Station used by the School Authorities is available for use under the Cleansing of Persons Act, and also for the treatment of itch; clothing and bedding being dealt with at the Central Dépôt by steam disinfection.

SMALLPOX.

No case of Smallpox occurred in the City.

There were several notifications received from Ports, of contacts on ships on which Smallpox had occurred, visiting the City. These contacts were kept under observation during the requisite period.

No primary or re-vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Smallpox Regulations, 1917, all cases being referred to the Public Vaccinator.

Owing to the prevalence of Smallpox in the Country, daily returns were called for from the two Common Lodging Houses of the names and addresses of new arrivals and the locality from which they came. New arrivals were interrogated whenever possible and the houses frequently visited.

The accommodation for Smallpox patients is referred to under the heading "Smallpox Hospital" on page 88.

VACCINATION.

This work was taken over by the Public Health Dept. on 1-4-30 and Mr. E. S. Howells appointed Vaccination Officer for the whole of the City.

The latest statistics are for the year 1930 and are as follows:—

Births registered	.....	.....	1,095
Vaccinated	.....	.....	550
Insusceptible	.....	.....	7
Statutory Declarations received		.....	437
Died unvaccinated	.....	.....	46
Postponed	.....	.....	10
Removed to other Districts		.....	19
Removed to places unknown		.....	12
Unaccounted for	.....	.....	14

			1095

It will be noted that 50.2% of the Infants were vaccinated, which is 5.2% more than in the previous year, which was also above the average for some years past.

The partially protected condition of the population cannot be considered as satisfactory.

SCARLET FEVER.

29 cases were notified, 21 being removed to the Isolation Hospital, against 100 notified in the year 1930.

The cases were distributed throughout the City with no special incidence in the area or the school, and no deaths were attributable to the disease.

DIPHTHERIA.

130 cases of Diphtheria were notified, 114 cases being removed to the Isolation Hospital, against 287 notified in the year 1930.

There were 2 deaths ;—one of these cases was treated at home, and one at the Isolation Hospital, giving a Mortality rate of:—

Treated at home	6.2;
Treated in hospital	0.9.

ENTERIC FEVER.

16 cases of Enteric Fever were notified, 11 cases being removed to the Isolation Hospital.

There were 2 deaths due to this disease.

As the number of cases notified was a considerable increase on the previous year a special report was called for by the Ministry of Health as to a possible explanation. I reported to the Ministry and the Water Committee as to the conditions found and the action taken for remedy which would appear to have been quite successful as only one case was notified subsequently.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

One case of Puerperal Fever was notified, and was treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

All cases in women whose temperature, within 21 days after childbirth or miscarriage, is 100·4° Fahrenheit (38° Centigrade) or more and has been sustained during a period of 24 hours or has recurred during that period, are notifiable under this head.

7 of these cases were notified during the year, 5 cases were treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital; 1 case came from the Administrative County of Devon, and was diagnosed and notified on admission to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital; and the remainder were City cases.

PNEUMONIA.

52 cases were notified, and 15 ended fatally. 11 cases were treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

All cases are visited and enquiries made as to the economic conditions and the nursing of the patients, and help afforded when necessary.

ERYSIPELAS.

13 cases were notified, 2 of them being treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital and 2 at the City Isolation Hospital.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

2 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever were notified during the year. One came from the County and was treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital and in the other case the notification was cancelled.

DYSENTERY.

No cases of Dysentery were notified during the year.

MALARIA.

No cases of Malaria were notified during the year.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

3 cases of Encephalitis Lethargica were notified during the year. One of these cases had really occurred several years previous to notification.

ACUTE POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS.

No cases notified during the year.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.

1 case notified. Case came from the County and was treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

CHICKEN POX.

345 cases of Chicken Pox were notified during the year.

MEASLES.

In the absence of Notification, only a limited number of these cases occurring come to my knowledge, mainly through co-operation with the Head Teachers of the Schools. The number of cases is incomplete but 327 are known to have occurred, mostly in the months of March, April and May and there were 2 deaths from this disease. The number of cases was probably much in excess of 327.

DIARRHOEA.

There were 2 deaths certified as due to the above, 1 of which was a child under two years of age. Posters pointing out precautions to be taken, safeguarding of milk, etc., in the homes, were exhibited in various parts of the City, and distributed by means of handbills.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In the absence of notification, it is impossible to give even an approximate number of cases of these diseases, but it may be said that Mumps, Influenza and Whooping Cough were all below the average.

CANCER.

Table of deaths from Cancer for the past ten years.

Year.	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
Deaths ...	95	108	91	99	96	85	84	110	82	96

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE	Cases Notified.														Cases ad- mitted to I. Hospital	Deaths.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
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1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009	1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1015	1016	1017	1018	1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1024	1025	1026	1027	1028	1029	1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035	1036	1037	1038	1039	1040	1041	1042	1043	1044	1045	1046	1047	1048	1049	1050	1051	1052	1053	1054	1055	1056	1057	1058	1059	1060	1061	1062	1063	1064	1065	1066	1067	1068	1069	1070	1071	1072	1073	1074	1075	1076	1077	1078	1079	1080	1081	1082	1083	1084	1085	1086	1087	1088	1089	1090	1091	1092	1093	1094	1095	1096	1097	1098	1099	1100	1101	1102	1103	1104	1105	1106	1107	1108	1109	1110	1111	1112	1113	1114	1115	1116	1117	1118	1119	1120	1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1126	1127	1128	1129	1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1135	1136	1137	1138	1139	1140	1141	1142	1143	1144	1145	1146	1147	1148	1149	1150	1151	1152	1153	1154	1155	1156	1157	1158	1159	1160	1161	1162	1163	1164	1165	1166	1167	1168	1169	1170	1171	1172	1173	1174	1175	1176	1177	1178	1179	1180	1181	1182	1183	1184	1185	1186	1187	1188	1189	1190	1191	1192	1193	1194	1195	1196	1197	1198	1199	1200	1201	1202	1203	1204	1205	1206	1207	1208	1209	1210	1211	1212	1213	1214	1215	1216	1217	1218	1219	1220	122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* Deaths from cases notified and not total number of deaths.

† Some of these cases were admitted to the Local General Hospital from the County Area for diagnosis and notified by the Hospital authorities.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The total of Tuberculosis notifications received in 1931 was 115. In 1921 the number received was 209. Of the 115 cases notified 28 were of Surgical Tuberculosis, and 87 pulmonary cases.

The total deaths from Tuberculosis numbered 58.

The total number of tuberculous cases in the City is 524.

AGE-PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
1	1	1	3	1	—	—	5	—
5	3	1	—	4	—	—	—	2
10	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
15	2	6	2	4	2	4	—	1
20	6	9	4	1	—	2	—	—
25	11	12	—	3	2	8	—	—
35	7	9	1	1	8	5	—	1
45	7	5	—	—	9	2	—	—
55	3	1	1	—	3	1	—	—
65 and upwards	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Totals ...	42	45	13	15	25	23	6	4
					58			

The above Table shows the Notifications received during the year, also the deaths. The total number of Notifications received was 127. 12 of these were duplicates, and are therefore excluded from the above Table, and 18 were imported cases.

Included in the deaths are 6 cases of which no Notification was received prior to the death certificate. In two of these cases the disease was only discovered at *post mortem*; and in four cases the diagnosis was made very shortly before death.

No action was taken under either Sec. 62 Public Health Act, 1925 (Segregation of persons suffering from an advanced stage of the disease) or Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (Power to prevent Tuberculous persons engaging in the Milk Trade).

X-RAY EXAMINATIONS.

Since 10.2.31 arrangements have been made with the Devon County Council to X-Ray tuberculous patients at the following charges:—

Screen and film, 15/- per patient.

Screen only, 5/- per patient.

Up to the end of the year, 147 X-Ray examinations had been made (6 for screen only).

The following Table shows the number of Notifications received during the last ten years:—

1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	Total.
144	130	133	124	128	127	134	101	96	115	1232

The following Table shows the deaths from Tuberculosis for the last ten years:—

Disease.	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	59	46	59	58	55	53	39	45	48	48	510
Other forms of Tuberculosis	12	5	14	14	10	12	11	12	9	10	109
Total ...	71	51	73	72	65	65	50	57	57	58	619

And the following the death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis for the last ten years:—

Year.	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
Number of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	59	46	59	58	55	53	39	45	48	48
Death Rate per 1000 ...	·988	·763	·9807	·969	·911	·87	·63	·73	·78	·74

SURGICAL TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table shows the number of non-pulmonary cases notified during the last ten years:—

1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	Total.
19	20	16	23	24	18	35	16	21	28	220

There are, at present, 103 non-pulmonary cases on the Register, classified as follows:—

Bones and Joints	.....	.....	.....	36
Abdominal	.....	.....	.....	9
Other Organs	.....	.....	.....	5
Glands	.....	.....	.....	53

The 28 new 1931 cases, included in the above, were classified as follows:—

Bones and Joints	.....	.....	.....	6
Abdominal	.....	.....	.....	4
Other Organs	.....	.....	.....	6
Glands	.....	.....	.....	12

By arrangement with the new Orthopaedic Hospital, surgical cases of Tuberculosis occurring in children under the age of 16 years are sent to that Institution and not as hitherto to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

We had altogether at the end of the year 524 cases of notified tuberculous disease in the City; 421 were Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 103 Non-Pulmonary. Of these 524 cases, 271 were attending the Tuberculosis Dispensary, either for observation or treatment, and 51 were in Institutions.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

The Devonian Association for Cripples Aid was formed at the instigation of the Central Council for the care of Cripples.

The Hospital was provided by this Association and the Public Authorities agreed to meet the running expenses, they having a 50% representation on the Hospital Management Committee.

At a Conference held between representatives of the D.A.C.A. and Local Authorities, it was decided that the sum of £2-5-8 per week should be paid for In-patients at the Hospital, and 4/6 per visit for each attendance at the Clinics, it being understood that these payments should be subject to revision according to the actual cost. As the result of this arrangement, it was found that at the end of the year the actual cost per patient had been less than anticipated and it was decided to refund the amount saved.

The Local Authority decided that the Tuberculosis cases should be treated under the scheme for dealing with Tuberculosis, and not as school children, although they might be of school age.

During the year, 12 children suffering from the following conditions:

T.B. Spine	.....	.....	4
T.B. Knee	.....	.....	3
T.B. Hip	.....	.....	4
T.B. Elbow	.....	.....	1
			<hr/>
			12
			<hr/>

were dealt with as follows: 3 were in Hospital on 1-1-31 and 3 were admitted during the year. The disease in 4 of

these cases is improving, but they are still in-patients: in the other 2 cases the patients are attending the Clinic for observation. The remaining seven patients attend the Clinic for treatment; two refused treatment.

Cost of treatment: In-patient, £290 7s. 1d. and Out-patient, £27 11s. 0d. Of these sums, £19 16s. 3d. and £6 16s. 0d. were received from patients.

EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

At the Tuberculosis Dispensary extra nourishment has been granted to various patients and the total cost of same for the financial year 1931-32 was £60 7s. 8d.

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

The accommodation for the treatment of early cases at the Pinhoe Sanatorium (14 beds) remains the same, as also does that for advanced cases at the Isolation Hospital, where there are two Wards, one (7 male and 7 female beds) for the accommodation of general cases, and the other known as the Red Cross Pavilion (12 beds) for ex-service men in an advanced stage of the disease.

Honeylands Children's Sanatorium, Whipton, was opened for the reception of patients on the 1st July, 1924. The figures for 1931 are appended:—

Remaining under treatment 1/1/31.			Admitted during the Year.			Discharged during the Year.							Remaining under treatment 31/12/31		
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	Males.			Females.				M	F	TOTAL
						Quiescent	Benefitted	Parent's Request	Quiescent	Benefitted	Parent's Request.	Total.			
10	7	17	6	8	14	6	1	1	2	2	2	14	8	9	17

The children are medically attended by myself. I visit the Institution twice weekly and at other times when necessary.

The average stay of patients in the Institution has been 32 weeks.

In addition to the physical improvement, which is very considerable in these children, in the opinion of the Teacher they also benefit greatly educationally. Most of these children, owing to their physical condition, are more backward than the ordinary child, but thanks to their improved health and hygienic conditions under which they live, and the more individual attention they are able to receive, they leave the Sanatorium School, in most cases, fit for a higher standard than that on their admission, improvement in their response and brightness being most marked.

The following Table gives details of patients treated at the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Pinhoe:—

Remaining under treatment 1/1/31.			Admitted during the Year.			Discharged during the Year.									Remaining under treatment 31/12/31		
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	Males.			Females.						M	F	TOTAL
						Quiescent.	Benefitted.	Transferred to Hospital.	Quiescent.	Not Quiescent.	Benefitted.	By Request.	Transferred to Hospital.	Total.			
3	3	6	10	10	20	5	2	1	2	1	5	1	1	18	5	3	8

As a Sanatorium, this Institution cannot be considered as entirely satisfactory, and it was only temporarily approved of by the Ministry of Health. There is no possibility of arrangement for graduated exercises, which is a necessary part of Sanatorium treatment.

On account of its small size, and the expense of the Institution, it would be better if arrangements could be made for Sanatorium patients to receive treatment in a large Institution where X Rays and facilities for Artificial Pneumothorax in suitable cases were available.

Table showing details of the cases treated at the Tuberculosis Hospital, Whipton, which is for advanced cases only, during 1931:—

Remaining under treatment on 1st January, 1931.			Admitted during the year.			Discharged during the year.			Deaths during the Year.			Remaining under treatment 31st Dec., 1931.		
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL
4	5	9	5	17	22	7	10	17	2	6	8	—	6	6

This Institution, together with the Red Cross Pavilion, is quite suitable for the treatment of advanced cases. They do very well, and it is not unusual for cases to so far improve that they become suitable for Sanatorium treatment, or able to return to their occupation.

Table showing details of cases treated at the Red Cross Pavilion, Whipton, which is for ex-soldiers and sailors in the advanced stage of the disease, during the year 1931:—

Remaining under treatment on 1st January, 1931.	Admitted during the Year.	Discharged during the Year.	Deaths during the Year.	Remaining under treatment on 31st Dec., 1931.
8	24	11	9	12

The Red Cross Pavilion was originally erected for ex-soldiers and sailors by the Ministry of Pensions and the Red Cross Society, but the number of ex-soldiers and sailors is now insufficient to fill it, and the numbers are made up by civilian patients.

In 1933 it becomes the absolute property of the Council: at the same time it being understood that ex-service men are to receive preference in admission.

Table showing details of cases treated in other Institutions during 1931:—

Institution.	Remaining under treatment on 1-1-31.	Admitted during Year.	Discharged during Year.	Died.	Remaining under treatment on 31-12-31.
The Princess Elizabeth Devonian Orthopædic Hospital, Buckerell Bore ...	3	4	3	—	4
Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital ... (cases for whom the Public Health Committee have accepted financial responsibility.)	1	20	17	—	4
Total ...	4	24	20	—	8

All cases undergoing Institutional treatment are considered from the point of view of their ability to pay part or the whole of the cost of treatment, and in very few cases is it found possible to recover anything in this regard. In the case of patients at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital this recovery is left in the hands of the Hospital authorities, who charge the Council £2 7s. 3d. per week, less the amount the patient is able to pay.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

The following particulars are given of cases under supervision at the Dispensary by the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. G. B. Page.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				TOTAL.			
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
A.—New Cases examined during the year (excluding contacts:)												
(a) Definitely Tuberculous	31	35	1	2	5	8	3	6	36	43	4	8
(b) Doubtfully Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1
(c) Non-tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	17	9	6
B.—Contacts examined during the year:												
(a) Definitely Tuberculous	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1
(b) Doubtfully Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	1
(c) Non-tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	19	23	27
C—Cases written off the Dispensary Register as:												
(a) Recovered ...	9	5	18	9	2	7	10	7	11	12	28	16
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as Tuberculous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	43	39	41
D.—Number of Persons on Dispensary Register on Dec. 31st:												
(a) Definitely Tuberculous	120	75	30	36	8	11	16	14	128	86	46	50
(b) Diagnosis not completed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	9	3

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY (continued).

1. Number of persons on Dispensary Register on January 1st, 1931	410	8. Number of other visits by Tuberculosis Officers to Homes (including personal consultations various Institutions ...	410
2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharged under Head 3 in previous years ...	7	9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to Homes for Dispensary purposes	269
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the Scheme, and cases "lost sight of" ...	60	10. Number of (a) Specimens of sputum, &c., examined ... (b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	227 (Total 436) 147
4. Cases written off during the year as dead (all causes) ...	41	11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register and included in A (a) and A (b)	2
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	2331	12. Number of T.B. plus cases on Dispensary Register on the 31st Dec. ...	79
6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on 31st. Dec.	7		
7. Number of consultations with Medical Practitioners (a) Personally (b) Other	57 65		

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Arrangements have been made with the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital (with the approval of the Ministry of Health) jointly by the Devon County Council and the Council of the City of Exeter, for the treatment of these diseases at a special department of the Hospital.

The hours of attendance are as follows:—

Men Mondays, 3 to 5 p.m., and Fridays, 6 to 8 p.m.

Women Fridays, 3 to 5 p.m.

If in-patient treatment is necessary, special beds are available in the Hospital.

Unmarried female patients are admitted to St. Mary's Home, by arrangement with the authorities of the Home, for in-patient treatment by the Surgeon in charge of the Clinic.

The following particulars have been obtained from the Venereal Disease Department:—

The following figures relate to the City only. Number of persons dealt with during the year at, or in connection with, the out-patient clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from:—

(a) Syphilis	.....	.....	.....	34
(b) Soft Chancre		.....	.....	—
(c) Gonorrhoea	.....	.....	.....	67
(d) Conditions other than Venereal	.....			23
				<u>124</u>

Total attendances of patients during the year at the out-patient clinic 2372

Aggregate number of "in-patient days" of treatment during the year 94

Examination of pathological material—

For detection of Spirochetes	.....	.....	4
For detection of Gonococci	.....	.....	124
For Wassermann Re-action	.....	.....	274
Other examinations	.....	.....	2

The City's share of the expenses for the year amounted to £689 4s. 5d.

The following figures apply to the entire department and are not given separately for the City and County:—

Number of persons who ceased to attend the out-patient clinic—

Before completing a course of treatment	144
Number of persons transferred to other Treatment centres after treatment	40
Number of persons discharged from out-patient Clinic after completion of treatment and observation	100
Number of persons who, on 31-12-31, were under treatment or observation	125
	<u>409</u>

The total number of persons under treatment at the end of the year showed a reduction of 36.

It is regrettable to notice that so large a number of cases fail to complete treatment, but this does not necessarily mean that they are infectious at the time they cease treatment but they themselves would be liable to be infected by the later manifestations of the disease which are so serious to the individual in their effect.

Attendances are not limited to Clinic hours but patients attend on other days and hours for interim treatment.

Notices are exhibited in all the Public Conveniences, setting out the facilities available for the diagnosis and treatment of these diseases. Judging from the number of enquiries one has had originating from these notices, they are undoubtedly doing a good and valuable work.

On the commencement of work at the Clinic all the Medical Practitioners were informed of the arrangements for diagnosis, treatment and consultation by the Medical Officer of the Treatment Centre. Every new Medical Practitioner is also informed. Ten Medical Practitioners in the City were supplied with free supplies of arsenobenzol compounds, and the number of doses of these compounds supplied to Medical Practitioners by the Council was 40,

The number of pathological specimens examined for Medical Practitioners is as follows:—

For detection of Spirochetes	.....	.....	1
For detection of Gonococci	.....	.....	47
For Wassermann Re-action	.....	.....	196
Other examinations	.....	.....	2

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

This work was taken over by the City Council, under the Local Government Act, 1929, on April 1st, 1930. Owing to a variety of circumstances it was extremely difficult to establish a correct Register for the City, but we have been able to do so now. On the 31st December, 1931, there were 105 foster-children in the City, and the number of foster-mothers registered was 89. The Health Visitors paid 606 visits to these foster-mothers during the year. It was found in some cases that the home surroundings were unsuitable, and improved home conditions were obtained for these; in others the foster-mothers had too many children, and this overcrowding has also been dealt with. In some cases the foster-mother was unsatisfactory, and in these cases they were made to give up the children. One child coming under this Act died during the year.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

ANTE-NATAL SUPERVISION.

An Ante and Post-Natal Clinic has been established at the Alice Vlieland Infant Welfare Centre. The Clinic is open for consultation every other Monday. Dr. Jessie Smith attends, but as the work was only commenced on 29th June, 1931, it is impossible to give the result of the year's working. It is made a condition for those mothers entering the Maternity Home for their confinement that they attend the Ante-Natal Clinic.

The Ante-Natal Clinic, formerly carried on by the Exeter District Nursing Association, is still continued for the mothers whom they attend, and 359 mothers attended during the year.

BIRTHS.

1,079 notifications of live births were received during the year. 86.3 of the notifications were made by Midwives and 13.7 by Medical Practitioners or relatives.

In 288 instances the Midwives summoned medical help, which indicates the thorough manner in which the Midwives are doing their work, while 20 other notifications in connection with still-births, artificial feeding, etc., were received from Midwives.

The amount paid by the Local Authority to Doctors under the Midwives' Act was £358 1s. 6d., of which £124 15s. 9d. was received back in part payment.

The conditions for which the Midwives summoned medical aid were as follows:—

Ruptured Perineum	.....	.....	64
Prolonged Labour	.....	.....	49
Abnormal Presentation	.....	.....	38
Anti-Partum Hæmorrhage	.....	.....	17
Post-Partum Hæmorrhage	.....	.....	7
Premature Labour	.....	.....	2
Adherent Placenta	.....	.....	2
Stillbirth	.....	.....	1
Albuminuria	.....	.....	11
Miscarriage	.....	.....	13
Rise of Temperature	.....	.....	15
Threatened Abortion	.....	.....	3
Unsatisfactory Condition of Mother	.....	.....	42
Unsatisfactory Condition of Baby	.....	.....	24

PUERPERAL SEPSIS.

This is dealt with under the heading of Notifiable Diseases.

MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH, EPIDEMIC DIARRHŒA, ETC.

These are dealt with under the heading of Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Diseases.

STILL-BIRTHS.

The number of still-births which occurred during the year was 60, 15 came from the County and of the remaining 45, 25 were attended by midwives and 20 by Doctors.

Of the 45 still-births—

4 were macerated, showing they died at some period anterior to the birth, and of this number—

3 were due to bad general Health and poor physique of mother.

There was 1 case in which no cause could be assigned.

Of the non-macerated infants, i.e., those who had not died previous to the time of birth—

12 were abnormal presentations.

1 was due to Malformation of Infant.

3 were due to Ante-Partum Hæmorrhage.

1 was due to Accident to Mother.

4 were due to Health of Mother.

3 were due to Prolonged Labour.

7 were due to Toxæmia of Pregnancy (Albuminuria).

2 were due to Want of Attention at Birth.

3 were due to Difficulty at Confinement.

There were 5 cases in which no cause could be assigned.

HOME VISITS UNDER THE NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACTS.

During the year the Health Visitors paid 765 first visits and 3170 subsequent visits to children under the age of 12 months, and 2711 visits to children between the ages of 12 months and five years.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

During the year the average number on books and the average number of attendances at the Centres were as follows:—

Centre.	Average No. of Infants on Books.	Average No. of Attendances Children.	Average No. of Attendances Expectant Mothers.
Central District ...	264	119	9
Western District ...	246	76	3
Eastern District (St. Sidwell's)	224	72	1
Eastern District (Heavitree)	140	43	1

Expectant Mothers are now referred, so far as possible, to the Ante-Natal Clinic.

PROVISION OF MILK AND FOODSTUFFS.

Fresh and Dried Milks are supplied by the Council in those cases where the condition of the infants shows that extra nourishment is required and the parents are unable to provide it. It is supplied either at half price or free, according to circumstances. During the financial year 1931-32 the cost of milk supplied was £1,032 14s. 7d. In respect of this sum, £94 5s. 6d. was received from the mothers in part payment. Net cost £938 9s. 1d., being an increase of £85 16s. 11d. over the previous year.

The scale provided by the City Council for the issue of milk is as follows:—

No. in Family.	Free of cost.	At half-cost price.
	Income not exceeding per head, less rent.	Income not exceeding per head, less rent.
1 or 2	8/-	9/-
3	7/-	8/-
4	6/-	7/-
5 or more.	5/-	6/-

MATERNITY HOME.

Arrangements have been made with the Public Assistance Committee to use the maternity accommodation at the City Hospital as a Municipal Maternity Home. This arrangement was necessitated by the closing down of the Maternity Home previously run by the District Nursing Association, and as the work was only commenced in June, a complete year's figures are not available. The Home is managed by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee who pay to the Public Assistance Committee the sum of £3 3s. 0d. per week per patient for maintenance and all services. Steps are contemplated for the improvement of the accommodation and for additional equipment.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION ACT, 1927.

During the year 2 additional Homes have been added and the late Maternity Home has been removed from the list.

13 Homes are now registered under the Act, and two Institutions.

Nursing and Maternity Homes.

- 4, Belmont Road (3 beds).
- St. Olave's Home. (17 beds).
- St. Mary's Home. (6 beds).
- Southcroft, Heavitree Road. (4 beds).
- Stokeleigh, Old Tiverton Road. (5 beds).
- Belmont, Southernhay West. (12 beds).
- 1, Baring Crescent. (8 beds).
- Mowbray, Fore Street, Heavitree. (12 beds).
- St. David's, 22, St. David's Hill. (11 beds).
- Ernsborough House, Colleton Crescent. (24 beds for incurable invalids).
- 49, Mount Pleasant Road. (2 beds).
- Storks Nest, Topsham Road. (3 beds).
- Franklyn Rise, Parkway, St. Thomas. (2 beds).

Excmpted.

Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital.
Eye Infirmary.

3 applications were definitely refused.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Arrangements have been made, with the approval of the Ministry and with the consent of the Education Committee, for dental treatment and supply of dentures for expectant and nursing mothers by the School Dentist.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR 1931.

No. of Patients seen	.....	.....	71
No. of visits paid by Patients		.....	301
No. of administrations of Gas		.....	70
No. of teeth extracted under Gas		.....	379
No. of teeth extracted otherwise		.....	8
No. of Dentures fitted	.....	.....	52
No. of teeth replaced	.....	.....	572
Repairs, etc.	.....	.....	19

Total cost of Dental Treatment for 1931-32 was £183 2s. 5d. of which £4 16s. 0d. was received back from Patients.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases.				Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total blindness	Still under treatment	Deaths	Removed from District
	Notified	Treated.								
		At Eye Infirmary	At Poor Law Infirmary	Privately						
	6	3	1	2	6	::	:	::	::	::

Under the Midwives' Rules a Midwife has to notify any discharge from the eye however slight. 23 Notifications of discharge from the eye were received, 6 of which were subsequently notified by Medical Practitioners as cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum. In the course of time this measure should lead to considerable reduction in the number of blind persons.

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

During the year 10 children from the Infant Welfare Centres received treatment for the following conditions:—

Result of Rickets	.....	.....	.....	7
Fractured humeris	.....	.....	.....	1
Torticoclis	.....	.....	.....	1
Paralysis and Detoid	.....	.....	.....	1

and dealt with as follows:—

3 recommended for in-patient treatment (2 have been admitted and 1 is waiting admission) and 7 received out-patient treatment at the Clinic.

The case waiting admission at the end of 1930 has been admitted, and has been discharged and recommended to attend at the Clinic for observation. The 2 cases admitted during 1931 are still in Hospital.

Of the 7 cases treated at the Clinic, together with the 17 cases on the books at the Clinic at the end of 1930, 3 were discharged as cured, 2 as improved, 4 were struck off for non-attendance, 2 were transferred to the School Medical Department on reaching the age of five, and 1 was transferred to the County Authorities.

Cost of In-patient treatment, £264 2s. 10d., and of this sum £13 13s. 6d. was received back in part payment by patients.

Cost of Out-patient treatment, £48 5s. 5d., of which £8 7s. 7d. was contributed by patients.

EXETER ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1931.

I have the honour to present the following Report of the work of the Exeter Isolation Hospital during the year:—

The accommodation consists of 88 adult beds, arranged in blocks as follows:—

One block of 24 beds for Scarlet Fever.

One block of 14 beds for Diphtheria.

One block of 10 beds for Enteric Fever, and used at present for Tuberculous cases.

One block of 20 beds, interchangeable as required.

One block of 8 beds for observation cases.

One block of 12 beds, provided by the Ministry of Pensions and Red Cross Society for the accommodation of 12 Tuberculous ex-soldiers or sailors.

The Hospital has a good administrative block, and it is recognised that in case of necessity the number of patient beds can be considerably increased, without detriment to the efficient working of the wards and the well-being of the patients. The whole is of modern construction and design, and is an Institution far above the average.

At present, contracts for the admission of patients exist with the following Local Authorities and other Public Bodies:—

Borough Council.

Okehampton.

Urban District Councils.

Holsworthy.
Ottery St. Mary.
Budleigh Salterton.
Dawlish.
Seaton.
Exmouth.
Crediton.
Axminster.
Sidmouth.

Rural District Councils.

Newton Abbot.
Honiton.
Axminster.
Crediton.
St. Thomas.
Okehampton.
South Molton.
Holsworthy.
Barnstaple.

Town Councils.

Honiton.
South Molton.

Exeter Port Sanitary Authority.
Kelly College, Tavistock.
Secretary of State for War.
Prison Authorities, Princetown.

Excluding Tuberculous cases, which are dealt with under a separate heading, at the beginning of the year 89 cases remained under treatment, 34 of whom were from the County. 269 cases were admitted during the year, 108 of these coming from the County and 161 from the City; and at the end of the year 1931 17 cases were under treatment, of whom 7 were from the County and 10 from the City.

The following table shows the number of cases treated at the Exeter Isolation Hospital during the past ten years:—

<i>Year</i>		<i>County</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Total</i>
1922	Treated at Isolation Hospital	126	152	278
1923	„ „	119	98	217
1924	„ „	108	99	207
1925	„ „	112	95	207
1926	„ „	89	231	320
1927	„ „	82	186	268
1928	„ „	97	125	222
1929	„ „	167	151	318
1930	„ „	279	361	640
1931	„ „	108	161	269
Average number of cases admitted				
for the ten years		128	165	294

The number of cases admitted has been below the average for the last ten years.

The following was the mortality amongst the 269 cases:—

<i>County.</i>	<i>City.</i>
6	5

This gives a death percentage of 4.08.

The average duration of each patient's stay in the Isolation Hospital was 31 days.

			<i>Days.</i>
Against in	1922	.....	38
„	1923	.....	39
„	1924	.....	42
„	1925	.....	43
„	1926	.....	45
„	1927	.....	38
„	1928	.....	38
„	1929	.....	40
„	1930	.....	52
„	1931	.....	31

Average stay for the 10 years 40

The average number of fever patients per day was 27.3.

DISEASE.	Cases remaining under treatment from previous year.	Cases admitted during the year.	Cases discharged cured during the year.	Deaths.	Cases remaining under treatment at the end of the year.	Remarks.
Diphtheria ...	70	194	250	5	9	<i>Diphtheria.</i> —Of the 5 deaths, the average length of time which the disease had existed before admission was five days. Two of these died within three hours of admission. It was necessary in 4 cases to perform the operation of Tracheotomy, with 2 recoveries and 2 deaths.
Scarlet Fever ...	19	50	62	2	5	
Measles	4	4	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	...	1	...	
Mumps	2	2	...	...
Enteric Fever	13	9	3	1	<i>Scarlet Fever.</i> —The 2 fatal cases had a malignant form of the disease and one was further complicated by a recent operation for Tuberculous glands in neck and was admitted to the Isolation Hospital from a Cottage Hospital.
Erysipelas	2	1	...	1	
Pneumonia	1	...	...	1	
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	...	...

During the financial year 1931-32, a total of £1,517 15s. 8d. was received for the treatment of infectious disease, being £1,253 3s. 6d. from outside authorities and £264 12s. 2d. from City patients.

SMALL POX HOSPITAL.

I am pleased to be able to report that an agreement has now been completed for the admission of City Smallpox cases to the County Smallpox Hospital at Upton Pyne.

MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

The educable mentally defective children under the age of 16 are under the supervision of the Education Committee; the other mental defectives are supervised by a Statutory Committee appointed by the City Council, composed partly by members of the Council and partly by co-opted Members. The number placed on the Register since the passing of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, is 231. Of these, 36 have died, 25 left the City, and 12 have been transferred to the Mental Hospital, leaving 158 at present on the Register. These are placed as follows:—

In Certified Institutions	.....	65
In Non-Certified Institutions	.....	4

The remaining 89 are well cared for in their own homes and visited from time to time by my staff in order to ascertain if these satisfactory conditions are maintained.

The total expenditure for the financial year 1931-32 was £3,058 0s. 3d., the bulk of which is for maintenance of patients in institutions, the amount being £2,911 4s. 9d.

There is, at present, an insuperable difficulty in obtaining suitable accommodation for multiple defectives and certain other classes of defectives. Negotiations are proceeding between the County Council, the Local Authorities at Star-cross Institution and the City Council, with a view to

obtaining additional accommodation for all classes of mental defectives in the Starcross Institution, but at the present time no definite decision has been reached, but the negotiations are continuing.

SUPERANNUATION.

During the year, 144 persons were medically examined under the superannuation arrangements, 108 as to their fitness for inclusion in the superannuation scheme and 36 as to their fitness to return to work.

Although the persons examined were 144, the actual examinations made were many more, as in some cases several examinations were necessary before their return to work, and in other cases, before a definite opinion could be expressed as to whether or not they were fit for inclusion in the superannuation scheme.

131 11

122 12

